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LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ALBANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter dated 11 April 1994 from Mr. Alfred Serreqi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania, addressed to you in your capacity as President of the Security Council.

May I ask for your kind assistance so that this letter and its annex is circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 11 April 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Albania addressed to the President of the Security Council

I would like to draw your attention and that of the United Nations Security Council to the profound concern of the Albanian Government about a grave event affecting the Republic of Greece and the Republic of Albania that has taken place four kilometres within Albanian territory.

On 10 April 1994, at about 0230 hours a.m., a Greek terrorist commando of six or seven persons, including a person who spoke Albanian with a Greek accent, armed and wearing Greek army uniforms, infiltrated about 4 kilometres into Albanian territory. In the vicinity of the Peshkepi village of the Gjirokastra district, the commando assaulted an Albanian conscript training centre. Two commando members killed an Albanian sentry, Arsen Llazar Gjini, 20 years old, from Seman village in the Fier district, while another four commando members burst into the sleeping quarters and opened fire, killing the training officer, first captain, Fatmir Sali Shehu, 34 years old, from Gjirokastra and wounding another three soldiers while they all were sleeping. In the course of this act, one of the commando members shouted in Greek: "This is on account of Vorio Epirus! Don't think we have forgotten it!". Afterwards, the commando, pursued by Albanian frontier forces, left for the Greek border. The itinerary they followed and the traces found led to the Greek frontier post of Argjirohori.

The Albanian Government would like to draw the attention of the Security Council to the fact that the 10 April criminal act follows in the wake of a series of such other incidents provoked by Greek armed forces as the intrusion of Greek military vessels into Albanian territorial waters and their opening of fire on 4 and 10 January 1994, the intrusion of a Greek minesweeper into Albanian territorial waters on 10 March 1994, the killing of an Albanian citizen, Alfred Muço, by a patrol of the Greek armed forces in the vicinity of Kostur after they had apprehended him, as well as other incidents that have occurred this year.

All these incidents, especially the latest premeditated, terrorist type act committed by an armed commando wearing Greek army uniforms, which came from and went back to Greek territory, are assessed by the Albanian Government as terrorist acts. The latest terrorist act, the massacre of people while they were sleeping, is considered to be a grave violation of Albania's sovereignty and territorial integrity, in pursuit of clear and premeditated designs, aimed not only at worsening relations between the two countries, but at exacerbating the situation in the Balkans in the first place. The political attitude of the Greek State towards the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, which may grow into an all-Balkan crisis, is cause for concern because such an attitude has long been running counter to the approach to the crisis of the European Union and the international community and their efforts to reach a peaceful settlement of it. As well as this, it is evident that the unilateral embargo and the intolerant and hostile stand of Greece against the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in

general, together with the grave provocations against and continued straining of relations with Albania, are coordinated and part and parcel of a strategy intended to exacerbate the regional situation in order to prepare the preliminary conditions for a spill-over of the conflict in the south of the Balkans. I would also like to emphasize that it is not accidental that Belgrade has recently stepped up its military and police repression in Kosova and increased its military presence and pressure on the border of Serbia with Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Government of the Republic of Albania, which is concerned about peace and stability in the region and seriously disturbed by the gravity of such acts of a warmongering character, asks the Security Council, within the framework of the exercise of its powers, strongly to condemn the Greek Government, classify it as one of the countries that apply State terrorism and bring pressure to bear on the Greek Government, demanding that it should throw light on this grave incident as well as identify and punish its authors publicly.

Alfred SERREQI